

BOARD OF FINANCE  
PUBLIC HEARING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2009

Present: Kathleen McGannon, Chairman; Thomas Tesoro; William Crooks; Mark Smith; Ken Martin; alternates Joanna Bruner; Steve Lupien

The first Public Hearing on the First Selectman's Proposed Budget for 2009-2010 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman McGannon in the Madison Middle School. All those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

This is the public's first opportunity to air their concerns and opinions to the Board. The Board is here to listen and not enter into a dialogue.

There will be a second Public Hearing on Saturday, March 7, 2009.

Anastasia...111 Wedgewood Road...After look at the budget, she notices that all salaries have been increased over last year. She would like to see a freeze for everybody on getting a raise.

Bob Cook...Stonewall Lane...Mr. Cook represents the Taxpayer's Association. He believes that town employees have too many concessions. Also, he does not like the idea of using \$750,000 for the tax increase.

Lainie McHugh...132 Fresh Meadow Drive...Ms. McHugh hopes that the Board of Finance leaves the Board of Education budget in tact. It should be noted what already has been cut. There are no other cuts that can be made.

Linda Bartolucci...129 Fresh Meadow Drive...She requests that the Board of Finance leave the education budget at its proposed level.

JoAnn Zimmerman...4672 Madison Avenue...She hopes that the Board of Finance will support the education budget.

Art Mikucki...85 Canterbury Lane...Mr. Mikucki's pet peeve is the high school. Keep the seniors in mind. What is the bond cost for the new high school?

Cindy Katske...129 Meadowview Drive...Ms. Katske requests that the Board of Finance not cut the education budget. Reductions will result in larger class sizes and will have a lasting effect on education.

Fred Wilson...42 Vixen Road...In 1998 his taxes were about \$5,000; today they are more than twice that amount. One of the reasons is that school teachers salary increases go up based on the number of degrees they have and years of service plus the overall annual increase.

Vicki Tesoro...133 Beechwood Avenue...She is here to give her support of the budget put forward by the Board of Education. She requests that the Board of Finance not cut the education budget.

Dawn Cantafio...72 Tait Road...She is in support of the education budget.

Tony D'Aquila...Valley View Road...There have been many articles and letters to the editor regarding the problems with the Bridgeport water waste treatment plants. Trumbull is currently expanding its sewer operations throughout the town. We are rapidly reaching our contractual obligations. I urge the Board of Finance to explore the opportunity to build our own sewage plant.

Earl Ormand...107 Crabapple Road...Mr. Ormand stated that his taxes are very high but he doesn't mind the town labor contracts because the town employees are doing a very good job. I want the town to provide to continue to provide the type of service they do. He supports this budget.

Cindy Penkoff...101 Columbine Drive...Everyone is taking a hit on salaries. She thinks the town should freeze wages.

Adjournment: 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Bokine, Clerk